A WARNING

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A PRETENDER TO DIVINITY.

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Revd. J. H. Smyth Pigott, Pastor of the "Ark of the Covenant," who lives at the Cedar Lodge, Clapton, London, has recently announced himself as God. This announcement is contained in two church handbills, entitled "The Ark," issued by Mr. Pigott on the 7th and 14th September 1902, and sent to us by his Private Secretary. In these announcements he asserts his Godhead in the most insolent words. He does not only utter the blasphemy of calling himself the very "Lord Jesus" who suffered and died before but with excessive arrogance and presumptuousness styles himself as "the Lord of the whole earth," "the Lord from heaven," "the Judge of all men," and "alive for evermore."

These irreverent and extravagant assertions are insulting even to Jesus Christ whose name has been assumed by the impostor. The jealousy of God has come into motion on account of the insult offered to His sacred name and to his messengers by the haughty assertion of a man who calls himself God and the Lord of earth and heavens, and my true, pure, perfect and powerful God has, therefore, commanded me to warn him of the punishment that awaits him. So far as human beings are concerned, I now refrain from warning them of their evil fate because they have seen many such warnings clearly fulfilled and because I have made a solemn promise to that effect but Mr. Pigott reveals himself to his congregation as God and not as a man. A letter containing these boastful and blasphemous claims has also reached the Secretary of our Office from Mr. Pigott's Private Secretary. The person to whom this warning is given, is not a man but a pretender to Divinity who claims an Everlasting Life and Lordship of the earth and heavens. I, therefore, warn him through this notice that if he does not repent of this irreverent claim, he shall be soon annihilated, even in my life-time, with sore torment proceeding from

God and not from the hands of a man. This warning of punishment is from the God who is the God of earth and heavens. His jealousy shall consume the pretender so that none may again defile the earth with such false and arrogant claims.

It should also be borne in mind that I am the true Messiah come to declare the glory of God upon earth. I am come in the spirit and character of Jesus Christ. I am a man and with me are innumerable blessings of God, within and without, in the beginning and in the end. God has borne witness to my truth with heavenly signs shown in thousands. I have more than a hundred thousand followers who have been brought to purity of life through me. Thousands of heavenly signs which they have witnessed have worked a pure transformation in their lives. The death of Mr. Pigott within my life-time shall be another sign of my truth. If I die before Mr. Pigott, I am not the true Messiah nor am I from God. But if Almighty God makes me a witness of Mr. Pigott's death which shall be brought about by the efficacy of my prayer, let the whole world bear witness that I am the true Messiah and that I come from God. We are both under the control of a higher power, and that powerful God shall bring the false Messiah to destruction within the life-time of the true one. I am over sixty-five years of age and Mr. Pigott is, I believe, at least fifteen years younger than myself. In giving this warning I do not publish any prophecy about the death of a Muhammadan, a Christian or a Hindoo, for Mr. Pigott does not belong to any one of these religious systems. Nay he claims to be the very God, the Lord of earth and heavens. The death of this god shall, no doubt, be a wonderful thing and more wonderful still his burial in dust. How soon shall his everlasting life end! May God, the perfect, powerful, living and supporting God, soon show this sign to the world. Amen.

THE PROPHET MIRZA GHULAM AHMAD.

Qadian, Punjab: 24th November 1903.

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